

MIDDLE SCHOOL INITIATIVE**METHODOLOGY AND SCOPE OF MILITARY DRILL AND CEREMONIES
INSTRUCTION**

1. This page outlines your general duties and responsibilities as an instructor of military drill and ceremonies. First, let's define the purpose of military drill and ceremonies. Military drill and ceremonies develops leadership and cohesion in a military unit. It also indicates a state of training and preparedness. Drill and ceremonies aids in the development of unified thought processes, which in turn develops unified simultaneous unit actions. To be an efficient instructor of military drill and ceremonies, you should be proficient in the performance of the subject before you can effectively instruct and critique the subject. You, as the instructor, are responsible for all leadership development of the unit. This is a responsibility that will influence the cadets throughout their CAP and civilian careers.
2. To start, your knowledge of military drill and ceremonies terminology is an absolute must. There are times when a lecture-discussion period should be used to acquaint the cadets with a particular series of movements. By being proficient in the use of correct terminology, you will impart knowledge correctly and reinforce the cadets' current knowledge of drill and ceremonies terms. In most cases, the demonstration-performance method of instruction is the primary means of instruction. The cadets that are in your class are in the advanced stages of military drill and may be very knowledgeable in the use of drill terminology, so be prepared.
3. Military drill, and some ceremonies, has been taught in the middle school initiative; therefore, the drill periods in this course are very limited in scope. Many cadets may already be beyond what will be covered in your classes, as they may have participated with regular CAP units during the summer. If they are, use their knowledge to reinforce your instructions to the others.
4. Much of the instruction you will be involved in requires the use of many cadets to effectively perform the ceremonies. This may not always allow you to practice the movements in an efficient manner, therefore, do the best you can with those that you have available. There are times when you may be able to interact with the cadets of a lower grade at a middle school initiative program in order to perfect the ceremonies outline in this course. Look at the second semester, weeks 16 and 18, and you will find that you will have a chance to bring the two courses together for a retreat ceremony.
5. Selection of cadets for leadership positions is at your discretion. You must be the sole judge of their abilities. Rotate the cadets through all the positions of element leaders, flight sergeant, flight commander, first sergeant, guidon bearer, and cadet commander. This will help them develop their leadership potential. You might do this every four weeks, or so, depending on your student load. Give first consideration to filling the flight commander and flight sergeant positions keeping in mind that every position does not need to be filled. These should be your priority positions for the cadets to gain leadership experience.
6. Good luck in your endeavors.